

Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the
conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora

Protection of species

Article 12

- 1 Member States shall take the requisite measures to establish a system of strict protection for the animal species listed in Annex IV (a) in their natural range, prohibiting:
 - a all forms of deliberate capture or killing of specimens of these species in the wild;
 - b deliberate disturbance of these species, particularly during the period of breeding, rearing, hibernation and migration;
 - c deliberate destruction or taking of eggs from the wild;
 - d deterioration or destruction of breeding sites or resting places.
- 2 For these species, Member States shall prohibit the keeping, transport and sale or exchange, and offering for sale or exchange, of specimens taken from the wild, except for those taken legally before this Directive is implemented.
- 3 The prohibition referred to in paragraph 1 (a) and (b) and paragraph 2 shall apply to all stages of life of the animals to which this Article applies.
- 4 Member States shall establish a system to monitor the incidental capture and killing of the animal species listed in Annex IV (a). In the light of the information gathered, Member States shall take further research or conservation measures as required to ensure that incidental capture and killing does not have a significant negative impact on the species concerned.